

HERMAN FARM, WASH HOUSE

HABS No. MD-993-C

North side of Showalter Road, 0.3 miles  
east of I-81, at Washington County  
Regional Airport  
Hagerstown vicinity  
Washington County  
Maryland

HABS  
MD,  
22-HAG-TO.V,  
3-C-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
MID-ATLANTIC REGION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HERMAN FARM, WASH HOUSE  
(~~Schindel Farm~~)

HABS No. MD-993-C

HABS  
MD.  
22-HAGTD  
3-C-

Location:

North side of Showalter Road, 0.3 miles east of I-81, at Washington County Regional Airport, Hagerstown vicinity, Washington County, Maryland

USGS Hagerstown, MD Quadrangle  
UTM coordinates: 18 265820 4398080

Significance:

This wash house - smokehouse combination is the only remaining period outbuilding in this well documented mid-nineteenth century farm complex. As a domestic outbuilding it reflects the rural building traditions of Washington County and the larger region of south-central Pennsylvania and mid-Maryland. It helps to promote understanding of 19th century domestic industry in such activities as cooking, canning, washing, butchering and meat smoking. The building is also significant for its intact quality with interior and exterior elements in place.

Description:

Located behind the main house this brick building is one story high with two doors on its south or front elevation. The eastern-most door, of board and batten construction opens into the wash house kitchen area while the west door, also of board and batten construction opens into the smokehouse. There is a six over six window on the east gable end and a door in the north elevation. A chimney serves the firebox area of the wash house. The interior of the wash house contains the firebox with a cast iron kettle mount with two large rings into which kettles could be set. The interior walls and ceiling are plastered and a southwest corner staircase leads to a loft. Walls are lined with cupboards and shelves. The interior of the smoke house is brick walled with the ceiling open to the roof. Joists and poles spanning the space have hooks from which were hung meats.

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(Schindel Farm)  
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History:

George Herman built this farm complex between 1856 and 1860. The barn is dated May 1856 and the house October 16, 1860. The wash house appears to be contemporary with the main house and is described in a sale bill for the property in 1888. George Herman was a prosperous farmer who resided on the property until his death in 1888.

Source:

List of Sales, Volume II, page 191.  
Washington County Land Records,  
Liber IN7, Folio 613, 614.

Historian:

Paula S. Reed, PhD  
Preservation Associates, Inc.  
Hagerstown, Maryland  
January 23, 1990

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